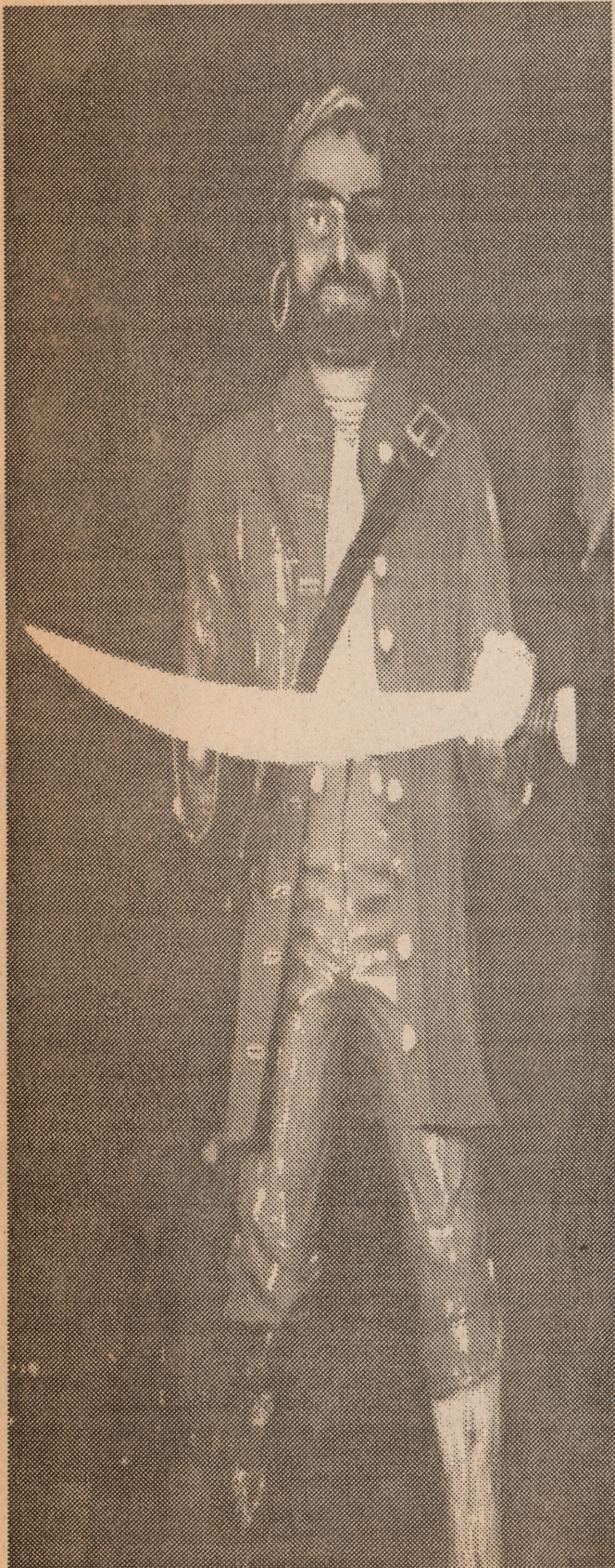


Scenester!

issue two



featuring

RANCID

H₂O

SCREW32

STANDPOINT

PUNK UPRISINGS

shift

SUBURBAN HOODZ

The Stuntmen

and more...

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All photos by Jonny unless otherwise noted.

If you would like to send things for review, take out an ad, or would just like a shoulder to cry on or a friendly return letter, contact us:

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124 Crosshill Rd.
Wynnewood, PA, 19096
(610) 642-8185

Please note: We are both going away to school soon, so if you write to us it may take a little while for to get a response. Our mail will be forwarded to us, and we will write/call you back with our new addresses. We didn't put them here because we don't know them yet.

If you are one of the first two people to answer by mail any one of these 4 trivia questions, you will win either a Scenester! shirt, or a CD of our choice.

1. Who is Whittaker Chambers?
2. Who is the artist, and what video is the line, "Give me a quarter! No tengo chaho." in?
3. Who is Kivas Fajo?
4. What is the name of the literary character who uses the word "Gubbish?"

Scenester! is printed at AFL Printing and produced on Macintosh Computers using Microsoft Word 5.1, Photoshop 3.0, and Pagemaker 4.2. To contact AFL call (609) 742-1270.

What's that deafening roar? It must be the Scenester! shout outs.

We would like to thank: The 610 Crew (610 Represent!), Terri R., Dan M., Marlon J., DND, WND?, Estelle M., Emily B. and the Boggle Crew, Mira S., LBF, Fat K., Brandy N., Micah N., Jen H., The LMAD Team, Little Anna, That Girl Chelsea, the Kitchen 1 Crew (Sari T., Sam B.), Don Rickles, Dave and Kurt, Terry from Brooklyn, Ross and the Mankato West AD Team, Supermodel Mike, Matt at the Troc, Paul at Motherbox, Diane at Victory, Carl at Blackout!, Chris at Lookout!, Chuck at Temperance, everyone at Epitaph and Fat Wreck Chords, Congressmen Mel "Back on the streets in a heartbeat!" Reynolds, Dirk at Doghouse, Curtis at Taang!, Susan "PunkUp" Wills, Mr. Feliciani, Mr. Homer, Our seats at the lunch table (We'll miss you guys.), H20 and Jerry, Matt Freeman, Ben Stuntmen, Jeff Suburban Hoodz, Josh Loucka (Shift), Violent Society, Lagwagon, Steve Standpoint, Bouncing Souls, The Goops, Ubisunt (R.I.P.), Oddsize, Nick and Prema, Chris F., "Cotton Candy" Joe Burns, Bumrush zine, Matte Wilson (RFS,) and Jeff "Met" Theis from All That/Too Damn Hype along with everyone we thanked in issue one. Extra special thanks to Shades Apart and Screw 32 for taking Scenester! issue one out on the road, to all our distributors, our families and you. Remember...

YOU ARE WHAT YOU READ! ©

Scenester! Letters

The following letter is the only one we received, it comes to us from an insightful young man named Alec who, we can only assume, did not read our preface before our interview with George Burdi of Resistance Records. The letter is reprinted exactly as it was written, no changes. I have also reprinted that preface in hopes that our friend Alec will see it. One other thing, both Dan and Jonny Scenester! are Jewish.

Dear Jonny, Dan, and the rest of you Nazis,

I don't know anything about you guys or Resistance Records but from what's in the interview, if you agree with this guy you might as well move back to the 1940's when fascism existed. I deeply regret buying your "zine" because it's all filled with interviews. Don't you have any opinions or anything to say, or are you just waiting for the "race wars" so you can kick some "nigger, kike, chink, spic" ass? This George from Resistance Records is fucked up! Is his middle name "grand wizard?" Anyone who believes that any race is more superior than another's is fucked up and should be beaten. Hey next time how 'bout you put a swastika on the cover? It matches the interview.

Fuck off you Nazis.

-Alec

Oh if you want my address, tough, I don't want Nazis and KKK members over my house.

Our preface to the article Alec was responding to:

We find it necessary to preface this interview: George Burdi is the founder of Resistance Records, a White-Power record label, and plays in the band Rahowa. (Racial Holy War) I first heard of George in the most recent Details music issue. After that I began to see his posts on the internet, alt.music.hardcore newsgroup to be exact. He was being attacked by virtually everyone on the group and told to get off the net. I started thinking about free speech and how it applies to everyone, no matter what their opinion is. I got the idea to interview George so I could see what he was really about. The interview was conducted by e-mail over the course of a couple weeks, at which point I stopped receiving replies. I suspect this may be do to legal troubles but I do not know for sure. I found him to be intelligent, well-written, and a nice guy. I know that may make your stomach churn, but it is the truth. We at Scenester! do not necessarily (or maybe at all) share George's views, but we are committed to free speech for EVERYONE. I hope you read this with an open mind. - Jonny

Scenester! Reviews

Our first review comes to us from Radio Free Suburbia issue 3: "Pretty straight-forward, lots of interviews with a lot of hardcore bands. This is the only other zine I know of that had Debbie Gibson in their first issue other than us, therefore, they are good."

Our next review is from the almighty All That, issue 8: "Talk about diversity. Scenester! number one is the epitome of it. Where else could you find interviews with one time pop sensation Debbie Gibson and George Burdi, founder of the white power record label and magazine Resistance and vocalist for Rahowa, the white power band you may have seen on the news or in Details magazine. Other than the two obvious stand-outs you get interviews with Avail, Tilt, 7 Seconds, Turmoil, The Bruisers, and Ignite. Record reviews are short in number as well as text, which is cool by me. An excellent debut!"

Our only other review is from Glen Benton of Deicide fame who had only one thing to say to us, "You are the true servants of Satan!" To which we can only reply, "We aim to please!"



Chamberlain

If you would like to order a copy of Scenester! issue one, or additional copies of this issue, please send \$1 to Jonny Cristol. (See address on inside cover.) This issue is free! If you have paid someone other than us, (The dollar is for postage and packaging.) you have been ripped off. Please contact us ASAP so we can set the scoundrel straight!!!

Scenester!

Stuff We Like

Dan:

1. Rocket From The Crypt's "Scream, Dracula Scream"
2. The Texas is the Reason LP.
3. People who don't realize what Scenester! is by looking at it and ask what it is.
4. Not paying for shows.
5. Eating lunch in the same seat for 4 years.
6. Receiving letters. (hint-hint)
7. Movies that feature the song "Dreams" by The Cranberries. (Mission: Impossible, The Next Karate Kid, Chungking Express)
8. Social Distortion.
9. The movie "Meet The Feebles."
10. Girls who like #8 or #9. (If you're out there, please get in touch!)
11. DND.

Jonny:

1. WND?
2. Terri.
3. Shelter.
4. Star Trek.
5. When bands appreciate my photos.
6. My Academic Decathlon team. (State Champs!)
7. Roller Coasters.
8. Phillip K. Dick books.
9. The movie, "Dadetown."
10. The Gipsy King's "Tierra Gitana."
11. The Chieftains.
12. Graduation!!!

S X E
FOR LIFE

Zines we recommend:

Right Lane Must Turn Left (\$1, Terri Rosenblatt, 112 Horseshoe Lane, North Wales, PA. 19454)
Radio Free Suburbia (\$1, Matte Wilson, 174 Meredith Ave., Garrett Hill, PA. 19010)
Guilty as Charged (\$1, Phil Kunkle, 6 Woods Edge Ct. Medford, NJ. 08055)
Bumrush (\$1, 40 East Main Street #121, Newark, DE, 19711)
Time Will Tell (\$2, PO Box 99, Fort Monmouth, NJ. 07703)

Congratulations to Toby and Moon!!!



This is a picture of Dan and Brandy taken at our prom. This is one of the benefits of going to high school with basket ball phenom Kobe Bryant.

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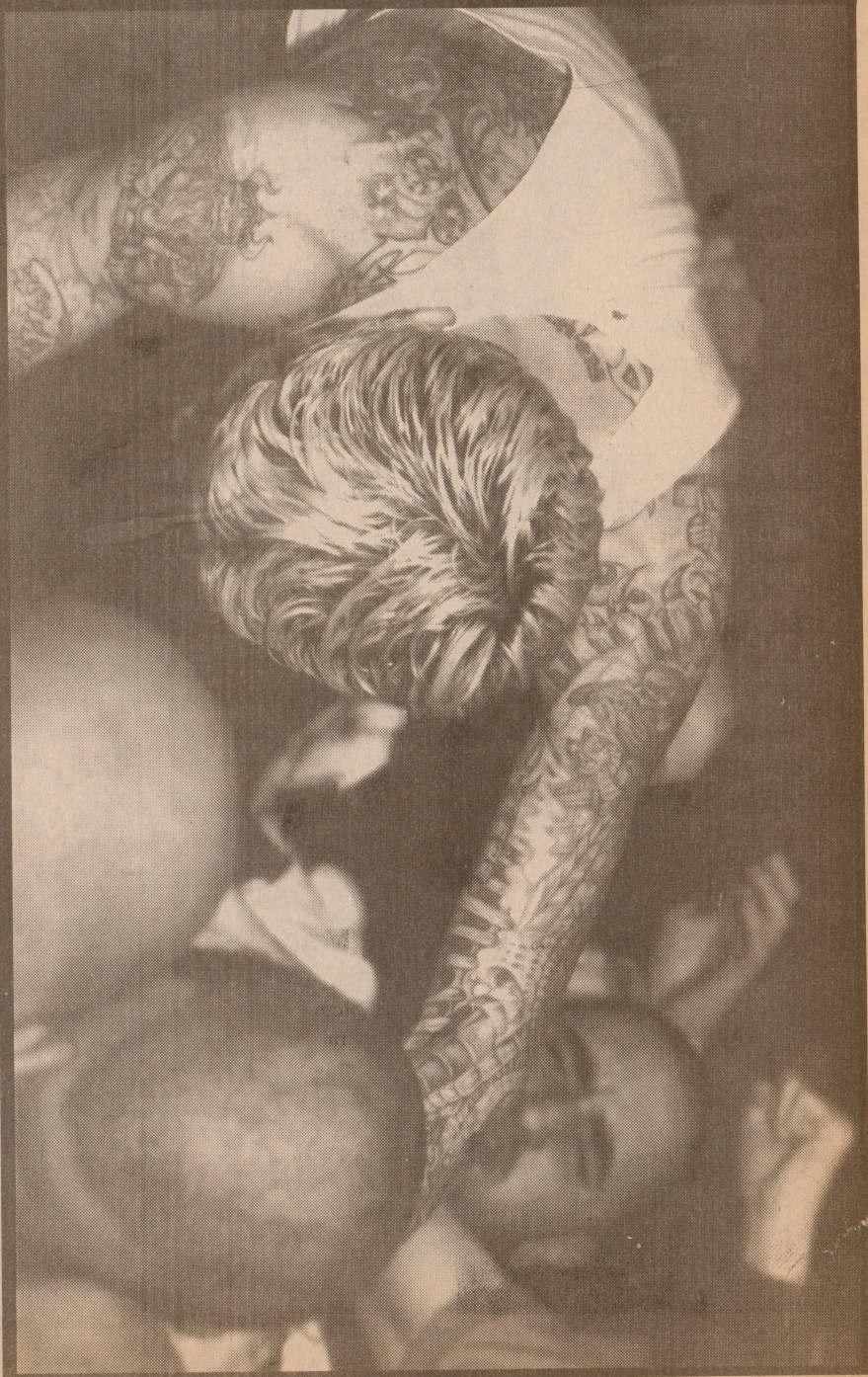
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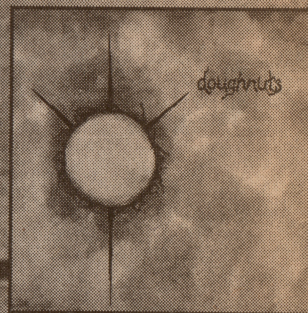
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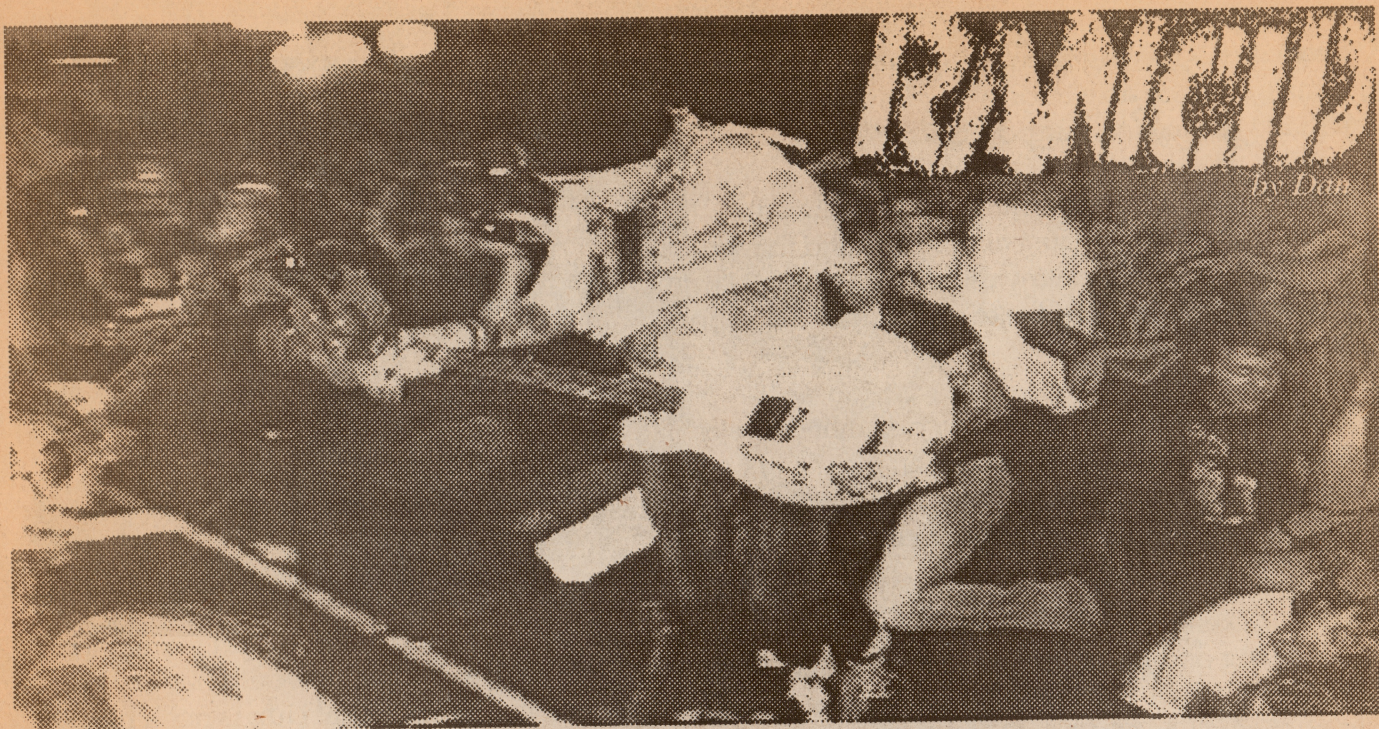


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by Dan

(Dan had the following telephone conversation with Matt Freeman in late March)

Scenester!: What exactly happened with Madonna? I've heard everything from one of you having sex with her, to her sending pictures of herself lifting up her shirt?

Matt: What happened was this, she wanted to sign us onto her Maverick label. She sent one of her guys out to talk to us and then she sent a picture of her from her *Sex* book with some dominatrix thing on. That was nice and all. We met her and talked to her and decided not to go on her label.

Scenester!: So she just sent a picture from the book, she didn't take one special for you guys? Did you feel let down at all? Who has the picture now?

Matt: No, I was surprised we even got a picture at all. I think Lars has it now.

Scenester!: Why did you decide to play this year's Lollapalooza tour?

Matt: We're playing Lollapalooza because The Ramones are playing it and we want to play with them.

Scenester!: Aren't you playing after them? I heard that Rancid are right after The Ramones.

Matt: I've heard everything from "yes we are", to "no we're not". I don't know what's going on. It would be weird to go on right after them, but if we did I don't think it would matter much, they're friends of ours.

Scenester!: Are you expecting to still be considered "punk" after doing Lollapalooza?

Matt: I don't fucking know. We consider ourselves what we consider ourselves. I don't give a fuck what people think about us personally. We do what we do. It's a state of mind. I still consider myself someone who can do what they want to do, which to me is punk rock.

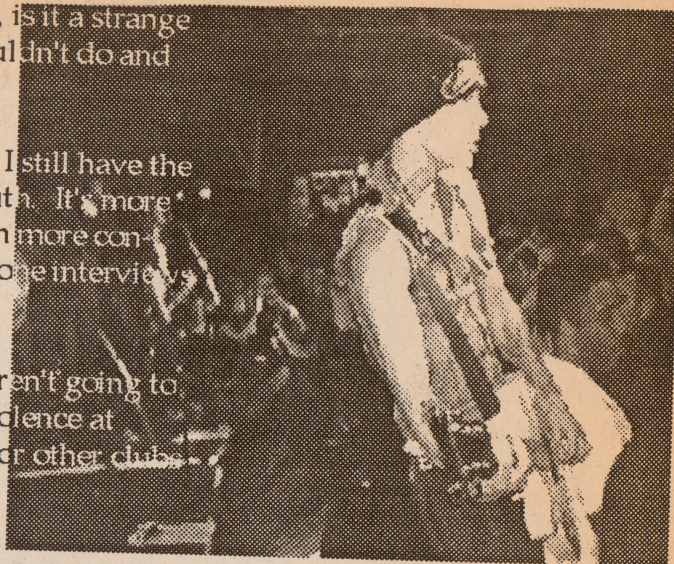
Scenester!: Having been poor your whole lives, is it a strange transition to be able to do a lot of things you couldn't do and to have money in your pockets?

Matt: I still live pretty much the way I used to. I still have the same apartment. I'm just not living hand to mouth. It's more of a luxury, it's not on my mind or anything. I'm more concerned with whether I wake up in time to do phone interviews or not.

Scenester!: Actually, I was worried that you weren't going to wake up for this... I heard about an incident of violence at Coney Island High. Can you still go to Gilman or other clubs back home without being harassed?

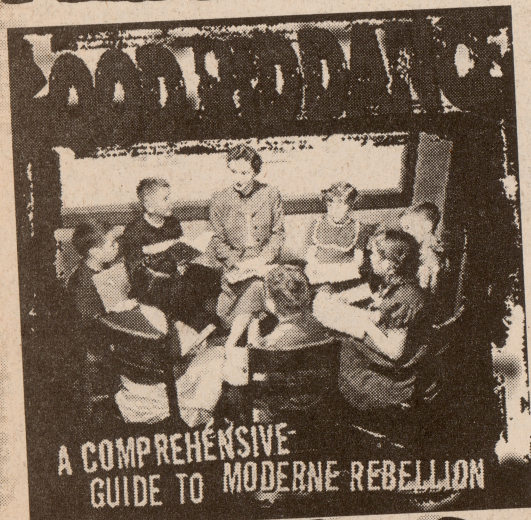
Matt: Nothing has happened. I went to Gilman the week before we left. We've been going there for so long and know so many people there that if anything were to happen it would have to be people from out of town. Gilman has a very strong non-violence streak. That club is not a place to go if you want to start shit. I feel secure when I go there. No matter who it is, if they like Rancid, if they don't like Rancid, I have faith that they're not going to start that bullshit.

Scenester!: No one says anything? I'm surprised. Well, I'm not saying that they should...



Check out the disappointing sophomore effort from

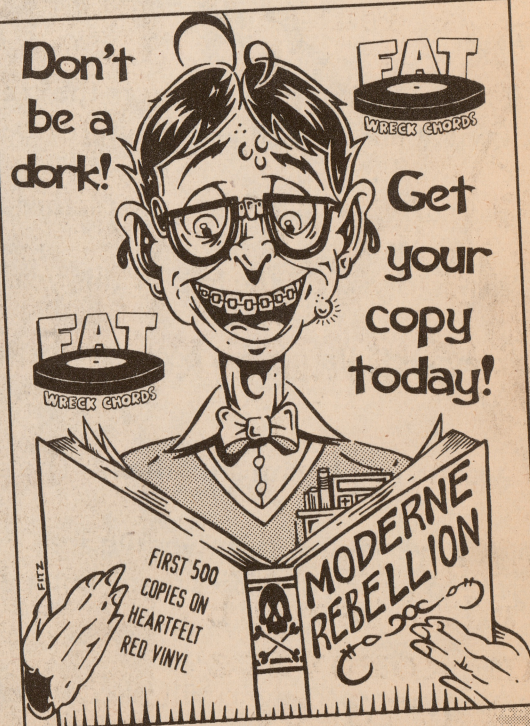
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Matt: No one says shit to me. I'm a nice fuckin' guy. I've been going there forever, no one says anything. If they say anything, I'm right there. It's a lot easier to talk shit in a fanzine or to your friends than it is to say it to someone's face. I'll discuss anything. If someone wants to talk to me about my band I'll talk to them, I don't give a fuck. If they want to yell things at me from far away, they can do that too.

Scenester!: I'm sure you're aware of that new stupid gossip column in MRR that prints nothing but lies. It said that you were quitting the band and being replaced by Bryan from the Bouncing Souls?

Matt: I've been denying that all morning. I called up someone that works there and said, "Look, if you want to talk shit, then talk shit. But don't start making things up. You could have called me, you've got my fucking phone number."

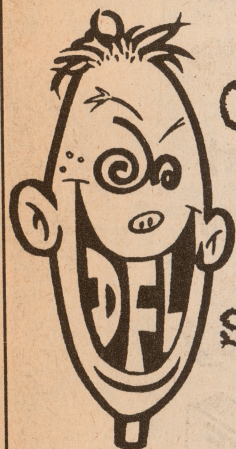
Scenester!: What percentage of the interviews that you do do you get asked about Op Ivy?

Matt: All of them.

Scenester!: I thought I'd try to make this one different by not asking about it. So that question didn't count, ok?

Matt: OK.

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On May 8th, 1996, Jonny and Dan Scenester! went out to dinner with three of the members of H2O with the goals of getting some good food, having a good time, and conducting an interview. In this case we decided to try something new and have H2O interview us. What ended up happening, was a discussion about all things hardcore, and H2O. The conversation was lengthy so this has been edited a great deal. Present were Toby, Todd, Rusty, their roadie Jerry, and my girlfriend Terri.

Toby: How old are you Dan?

Dan: 17, How 'bout you?

Toby: 26, How long have you been into hardcore for?

Dan: 3 and a half years. How bout you? How long have you been into hardcore for?

Toby: Long.

Todd: Since '81 right?

Toby: '81 probably, since I was 11, my brother took me to shows.

Todd: So why are you guys doing a fanzine?

Dan: I don't know...

Jonny: We just decided to.

Dan: Yeah. Everyone else was, we figured why shouldn't we.

Todd: Well, since everyone else is, what are you trying to accomplish different?

Dan: We're not doing anything deep or anything.

Jonny: We have two rules, no rants, and no poetry.

Todd: You know what would be a good rule and you would get a lot of bands to be in your magazine? Not asking questions like, "How long's the band been together?"

Toby: They don't! What do you think they're doing here?

Jonny: Yeah, we don't do stuff like that.



Dan: That's why we wanted to do something different and have you guys interview us...

Rusty: What's your favorite song of ours?

Jonny: "I Know Why"

Dan: That's probably what I was going to say, either that or "5 Year Plan."

Toby: What made you interested in H2O? What are some of the reasons why you like H2O?

Dan: Well, I saw you do that surprise set with Snapcase and 108...

Toby: That was the third show.

Dan: ...and I liked it a lot, and I saw that two weeks later you were playing at my friend's club, that one in South Philly, the little place.

Toby: Upstairs?

Dan: Yeah, the Deadenders Club.

Toby: Were you at that?

Dan: Yeah.

Todd: You were one of the like 13 people there.

Toby: So has H2O inspired your life in any way, any lyrics you can relate to that inspired you to do something?

Dan: I hate to upset you, but no, not really.

Rusty: If you guys like "I Know Why" why do you like it? The music? The lyrics?

Jonny: Well, the lyrics are really great. Those are the best lyrics, at least of all the ones I know.

Todd: Well let me ask you this, we've all been talking about how we've been into hardcore for such a long time, do you guys notice a difference between the bands that are out now, and did you guys notice right away when you heard us that we're influenced by an earlier hardcore?

Jonny: Yeah, it's not metal-hardcore.

Todd: Exactly, that's the difference, right?

Dan: When I saw you guys playing with Snapcase and 108, they have their own style, like metalish and you guys...

Todd: What do you guys think about that? What do you think about these bands that are like totally all metal but call themselves hardcore?

Jonny: Well Earth Crisis and stuff, who I love, sure they're like pure metal in terms of the music. But they're not metal because they don't have that metal attitude. They have a hardcore attitude, and they don't run the band in a way that a metal band would.

Dan: And name a metal band that goes out and preaches veganism and straight-edge. You're not going to find one.

Jonny: They're still a hardcore band, even if the music isn't like that.

Toby: There's a lot of bands that sound metal but have that hardcore mentality, and hardcore roots, and they just took it to the next level... you saw the Outcrowd and didn't like them right?

Dan: Not really. Jonny fell asleep because he had been up for like 42 hours.

Todd: Why didn't you like Outcrowd?

Dan: I don't remember, it was about 2 1/2 years ago.

Jonny: It just wasn't my thing...I fell asleep during the second set. We saw you guys twice that day, in the afternoon with Black Train Jack and at night with the Ramones, and I had been awake for about 43 hours and I fell asleep.

Todd: So the Outcrowd didn't put you to sleep.

Jonny: No, and I don't remember what it sounded like all that well. All I can remember was not really liking it.

Rusty (to Todd): You know what someone told me when we played Coney Island with you guys? What was it, Crown of Thornz played, then us, then you guys. I'm standing in the crowd watching you guys play and I'm like, "Yeah, yeah, this is great." And this girl walks up to me and says, "You're in H2O right?" And I said, "Yeah." and she said, "Who's this band on there now?" And she had

this attitude and I just said it was a friend of mine's band. And she figured, "just a friend's band" and she goes, "The singer's just not that good. I hate his voice!" And I go, "That's my brother you're talking about!" And she went and walked away.

Todd: Well, everyone has their own opinion. At the last show we played, these two kids walked up to me and said that Outcrowd was the first band they got into, they were all sweating and I thought they were talking about H2O and I said, "What?" and they said, "Outcrowd, you were in Outcrowd!" It was like a totally different thing. It was like a rock band with punk and alternative influences.

Dan: What's that other guy doing now? Weren't there three of you?

Rusty: He's managing an Ikea.

Toby: Do you guys feel safe going to shows these days, the way it is now with the dance styles, the mentality of the kids, is it scary if like you wanted to go see Madball in New York?

Jonny: It's not that we won't go, we went to New York to see Madball and Crown of Thornz last summer, we're just not going to stand in the front or anything. I mean at shows like tonight, I'll be up front screaming and everything.

Toby: Cause it's your home town and you feel safe. At the same time, it's not the bands fault that those kind of people come.



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Jonny: I don't blame the bands at all.

Toby: What do you think about the militant straight-edge bands and the closed mindedness?, alienating people because they're not a certain way.

Jonny: I really don't know. I wouldn't say that I'm militant but I agree with a lot of what a band like Earth Crisis says. I wouldn't not talk to someone or hate someone outright for any reason like that, I would definitely say I'm more prone to be friends with someone who's straight-edge because we share a common interest, but I also think that people who are straight-edge are smarter...no offense.

Toby: I don't know kid, I've been straight-edge a long time and I barely made it out of high school.

Jonny: Well, you have to understand, we're still in school and the people who aren't straight-edge are drunks. There's a difference between having a cup of red wine with dinner, which I wouldn't do, but at least for kids... to go out and just start drinking. I would say there's something wrong with them.

Dan: Is it hard and strange to be the only straight-edge member?

Toby: It's a little annoying at times, but that's the way it is. I'm probably a little anal retentive and a little too organized for these guys sometimes.

Rusty: So why do they call it "hardcore?" What do you guys think about why it's called hardcore? Well think about this, You have all these kids yelling for hardcore, it's like hardcore is like hard at the center, not hard surface, not like dressing up like this or that.

Toby: Straight to the core, there's no bullshit.

Rusty: It's also like wearing your tatoos on the inside.

Toby: It's more reality, more aggressive than punk. Straight to the point, hardcore reality.

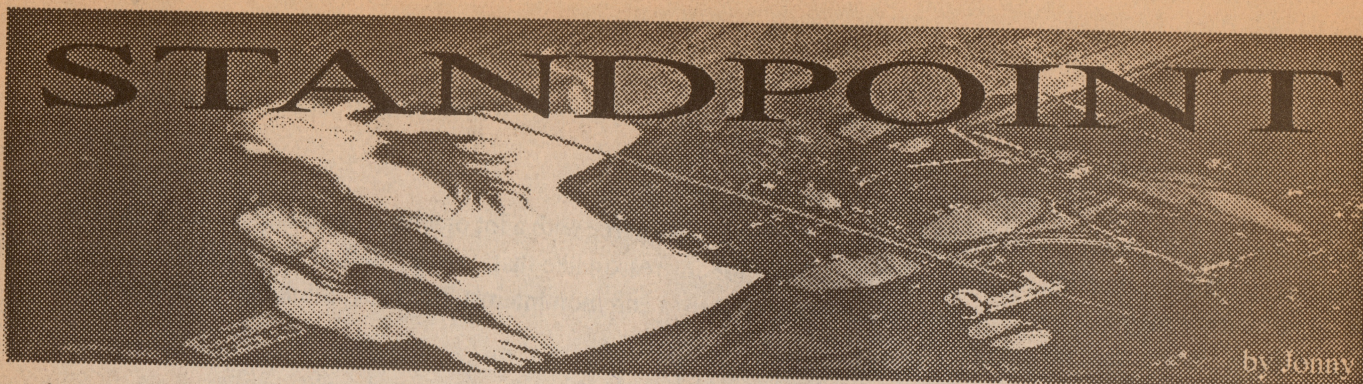
Todd: I think basically really what hardcore became is, it stripped down all the regular bullshit around music. Straight ahead stuff without the hoopla around it.

Jonny: Which is another reason why I said the metal bands are still hardcore even though the music is metal, because they're like that.

Dan: It's able to be played anywhere, you can put it in a firehall, you can put it in a church...

Toby: Punk is more of an anarchy, no rules, hate your parents thing, and hardcore is more of a respect your family, united, we're together type thing.





by Jonny

This interview was conducted with Steve, the drummer from Standpoint, over the phone. It has been drastically reduced in length so as to meet our deadline which is in 1 hour. Standpoint are: Reilly - Vocals, Bob - Guitar, Jarrett - Bass, and Steve - Drums. They currently have a 7 inch out on Spiritfall Records that I suggest you run out and buy.

Scenster!: In the new Very Distribution catalog it describes your 7 inch by saying, "Maybe the successor to the Ashes throne?"

Steve: To the Ashes throne? That's kind of lame, I mean we weren't trying to be like Ashes or anything. All these Ashes comparisons, it doesn't really make sense to me. Reilly and Elena sound nothing alike, their lyrics aren't really alike, and the music's definitely not close to being the same, especially our newer stuff.

Scenster!: I think it could be that when anyone hears a hardcore band with female vocals, they automatically equate it with Ashes.

Steve: That's kind of sexist in a way, cause, how many bands have guy singers? But no one's going to say, "Oh, they sound like the Cro-Mags because they have a guy singer!"

Scenster!: You guys seem to play a lot with really heavy bands, like Fury of Five for example, and you seem to get over really well, which supprises me.

Steve: Yeah, a lot of the tougher crowd really digs us. It could be because I'm friends with a lot of them. I guess they're just really open minded.

Scenster!: Where's your favorite place to play?

Steve: My favorite place to play is the Princeton Arts Council...

Scenster!: The show with Mouthpiece?

Steve: That was my favorite show.

Scenster!: I was at that show.

Steve: That was definitely the most fun show we ever played. The last show we played at The Pipeline was the best musically.

Scenester!: Have you found that you get shows more and more now?

Steve: Yeah. When we first started I was always calling people, now we get a lot of calls. I've actually turned down shows.

Scenester!: Do you guys have anything else coming out?

Steve: A full length.

Scenester!: When's it due and on what label?

Steve: At the end of August on Smorgasbord.

Scenester!: Is it going to be some of the same songs from the 7 inch and the demo, or all new stuff?

Steve: It's going to be all new stuff except for one song.



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Scenester!: Can I ask a personal question?

Steve: OK.

Scenester!: You and Reilly are together, right?

Steve: Yeah.

Scenester!: How is that, playing in the band together? Does it create any tension? Does it make you closer?

Steve: It kind of makes our relationship better. It makes it stronger, not that I would ever, ever cheat on her but I have to think about the band and my girlfriend. I won't break up with her for a stupid reason.



Scenester!: How long have you been together?

Steve: About 2 1/2 years. We started the band after we had been going out for awhile. We were just sitting in her house, and she had sung in plays and stuff, and I was watching a video tape and just said, "Reilly, Reilly, can you lead sing with our band?" And she's like, "What? You want me to sing in a hardcore band?"

Scenester!: Was she into hardcore before the band?

Steve: She liked Underdog and Shudder to Think.

Scenester!: It seems like a lot of hardcore kids like Shudder to Think. I personally don't...

Steve: I hate them.

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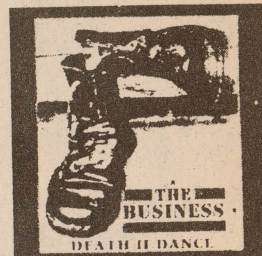
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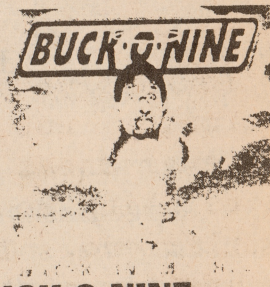
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Dan did this teeny weeny interview recently at a show with Lagwagon. Screw 32 were going to play, but Andrew lost his voice, so they decided not to. Well, myself and a few others weren't about to let this happen so we convinced him to try and tough it out. He did and this was conducted outside after their short, but sweet set.

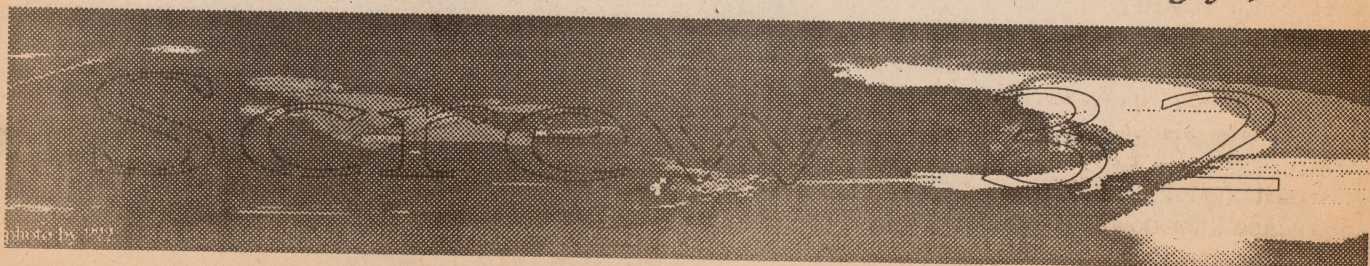
Scenester!: What does Screw 32 mean? The words sound good together, but does it mean anything?

Andrew: The government was auditing themselves when they had a 3 trillion dollar deficit under George Bush and they had to account for a lot of where money was going. They couldn't say they spent it on cocaine and guns and what they really spent it on, so they said they spent it on stuff that they already had in their warehouses, like hammers and screws. There's a size of Screw that is 32. It's a standard screw you can get at a hardware store for about 10 cents, but they said it cost like \$60,000 to cover the deficit. It also wasn't galvanized, which means it sparks. They were in airplanes and it was sparking and causing accidents. It's kind of like poking fun at the government. But yeah, it also rhymes so that's Screw 32. Its come to mean a lot of other things too. There's an anti-skating ordinance in Concord, a suburb of Berkeley. Doug tells people, "I could tell you but then I'd have to kill you." He also says, "It's not what you think." Because a lot of people go, "Oh, is it cause you're screwing girls?" But we all have wives or long term monogamous type stuff.

Scenester!: How's Jimi's daughter?

Andrew: She's fine. She's beautiful. Her name is Madeline Anastasia McCluskey, she's a sweetheart. I go over and I wrestle with her and hang out.

(While looking through Jonny's trunk I came across some golf tees and I felt compelled to give him some. Later, I showed him the 610 Crew hand signals and made him an honorary member. We also gave them 200 copies of Scenester! to give out on the road. Thanks guys!)



PUNK UPRISINGS

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(This is a condensed version of a piece Dan wrote for MRR.)

"Punk Uprisings" is an independently produced television show that airs punk and hardcore music. It's paid for on infomercial time. This means you may see it right before Dionne Warwick and her "Psychic Friend's Network" come on the air. After seeing the show a couple of times, I was left with some questions and contacted the show's leading lady, Executive Producer Susan Wills, for this interview.

Scenester!: What gave you the idea to put relatively unknown punk bands on national television?

Susan: It was a natural progression, actually. My friend Martin and I had a column called "Punk Uprisings" and it made sense to film the interviews and performances. It wasn't so much an idea of putting "unknown" bands on national TV as it is giving people access to the bands. There are TONS of great local bands who never make it out of their state. And there are great internationally known bands that only hit a town once a year, if that. And there are bands that broke up, and it's neat to find footage that no one knew existed. I see the show as a weekly audio-visual zine.

Scenester!: "Punk Uprisings" openly seeks contributions from the public. What kinds of things are eligible for airtime and what isn't?

Susan: We would love to have anyone, anywhere film any bands on any format and send it in. Do scene reports, do skits about anything...whatever you would like to see, send it. Since we are on a cable station, we are governed under the FCC regulatory statutes. Use your judgment...the Bouncing Souls made a video for me almost a year ago and it had a guy dancing around with his penis flopping all over the place. Yes we covered it, duh. But a few weeks ago we put it in a new tape for a station in Belgium and we forgot to put in the covered version. Thanks a lot, Greg.

Scenester!: Would you air a video that was also sent to MTV?

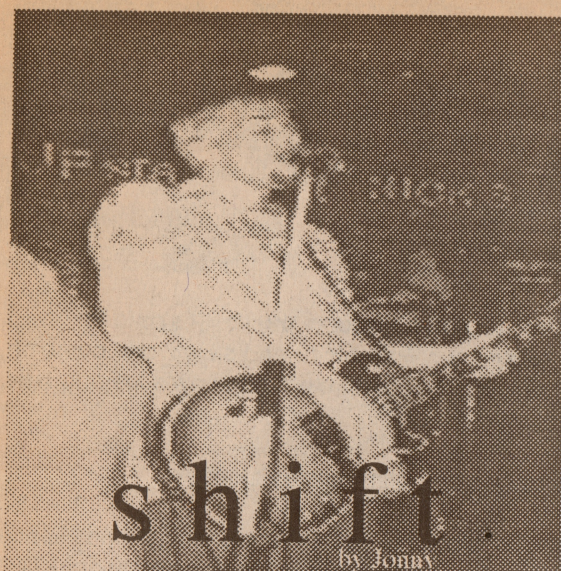
Susan: No. If anyone finds out that a video was sent to MTV and you think I may not know, CALL ME. I have had a couple of bands lie about that before. Fuck them! A video that would be sent to MTV isn't meant for my show. We want to put good music out there..."Punk Uprisings" doesn't exist to aid the promotional efforts of a band so they can get big and appeal to a new crowd. That's what MTV is for. If you want to be MTV prostitutes, please don't call me any more

Scenester!: What is your policy toward broadcasting bands on major labels?

Susan: This is a reprint from an article I wrote for Punk Planet: "No major label punk videos. This is a little tricky to explain. We will show the occasional major label hardcore live footage (Sick Of It All knows what it is all about.) or an interview or even live footage of a band who is now on a major label, but the song we will use will be off an independent label release. The only other exception to this being the original punk bands, but there were different rules back then. This means that we will show videos by The Ramones, the Clash, and the Sex Pistols, etc..

Scenester!: How did you hook up with Lookout! and get them to release a P.U. benefit CD? Are there more CD's planned for release?

Susan: I begged. The people at Lookout are amazing and I wanted to do a series of samplers to compliment the show and since we needed more money to keep the show afloat, we have the proceeds go to benefit the show. The first one was released in January and has a West Coast feel, even though many of the bands are from elsewhere. (Wizo, Trigger Happy, The Suspects, Satanic Surfers, Weston, the Bouncing Souls, Funeral Oration) 25 bands for \$5. The next one is an East Coast only one: Blanks 77, The Pist, Positive State, The Casualties, Lickety Split, The Boils, Showcase Showdown, Quincy Punx, Against All Authority, The Crumbs, Hudson, Submachine, Anti-Flag, Lifetime, Rizzo Machine. Boy oh boy will it rule.



Shift, a "post-hardcore" quartet from New York City, formed about four years ago when Samantha Maloney (drums) joined up with Joshua Loucka (guitar/vocals) and Brandon Simpson (bass) who had been playing together since they were 16 years old. They released two demos independently and shortly thereafter Equal Vision Records approached them and voiced interest in signing them. "We asked a million questions," remembers Josh. Apparently they gave all the right answers as EVR is the current home of Shift and has released both the 1994 EP "Pathos" and the new LP "Spacesuit," produced by Richie Birkenhead of Into Another fame. Into Another had played some shows with Shift, and Richie voiced interest in producing. He liked Shift so much, he decided his first producing venture should be their next record. "We thought it was cool, we liked his band and thought he had a good ear for music," says Josh. With the new album out, and the band starting to play out again it seemed they were on top of the world. Then Sam left the band due to the emotional and physical draining the band's tours were causing her. During this time of regrouping the band added a second guitarist, Mark Holcomb, and were attempting to ascertain who their new permanent drummer should be when Sam had a change of heart and decided she missed the band too much and was willing to make the sacrifice of touring to stay in it. And I'm sure many people are glad as well, Sam being one of the few female drummers who play hard music in bands today. Shift have played and often still play with many bands that do not share their sound; emo bands, metal bands, metal-core bands, and straight-edge bands. Shift, however, is not a straight-edge band, "Our new guitar player is straight-edge, the rest of us, well, none of us are heavy drinkers or drug users, but it's (s)he just not our thing." Commenting on the band's sound Josh adds, "Our sound kind of floats between different types of music and we're happy we can play with different types of bands and get different types of people to see us," says Josh, "even if we play with bands we hate."

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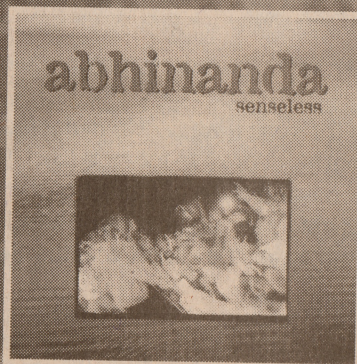
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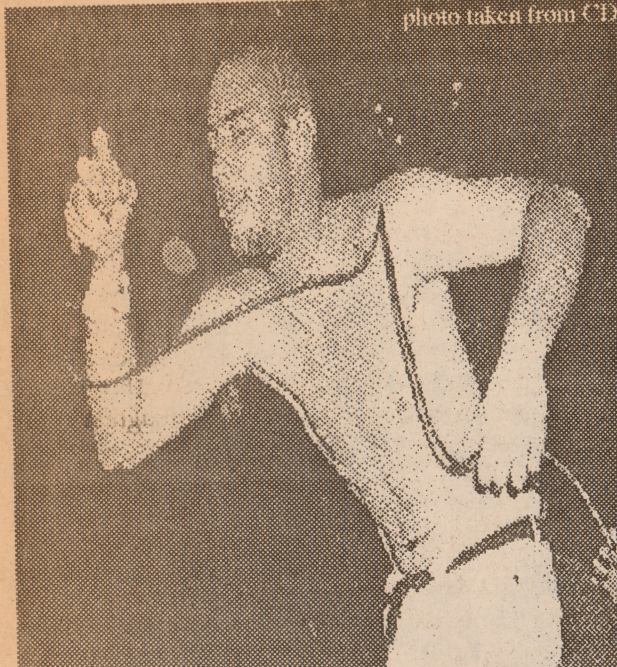
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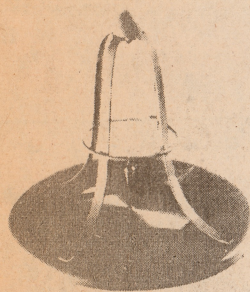
photo taken from CD



SUBURBAN HOODZ

BY DAN

If there's one thing that the Suburban Hoodz want you to know, it's that although they are a couple of white kids rhyming, they are not to be confused with Rage Against the Machine rip off bands who try to cash in on the style of mixing hip-hop and metal. They prefer to think of themselves as "Hip-hop for the hardcore at heart." The guys grew up on hardcore like Bad Brains and Warzone, and also on rap acts like RUN-DMC and Boogie Down Productions. From when the Hoodz formed six years ago, up until about two years ago they relied on technical support such as turntables and prerecorded beats to provide the rhythm at their shows, but it just wasn't working up to their standards. "There's really only so much you can do with turntables and stuff, with a live band we try and give the best of both worlds. Straight up rapping in your face with influences of hardcore," explains Jeff Davis, one of the band's three funky freestylers. Rounding out the line-up are Colin, Chad, Harry, K-Roc, and Lou. To date the Hoodz have enjoyed sharing stages with their heroes Bad Brains, as well as Warzone, The Goats, Sick of it All, Dignable Planets, The Bosstones, and Biohazard. Soon they'll be rippin' shit up on their own in support of their first release, "This Boy's Life", out on their own 215 Records. Next up on 215 is a Bad Brains tribute compilation that's gonna be off the wall. But while you're waiting for that to hit the streets try and pick up the Hoodz seven song debut that truly is "hip-hop for the hardcore at heart."

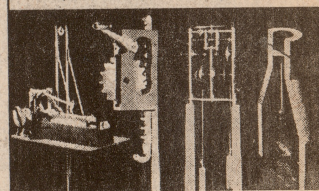


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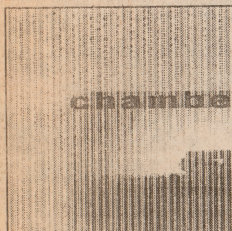
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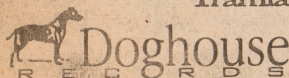


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Jonny and I saw Ben (singer/guitarist from the Stuntmen and ex-Flock of Seagulls) at a recent show and decided to make him undergo the following interrogation. The idea for the questions about the Ultimate Fighting Challenge were stolen from BUMRUSH zine, but they don't mind.

Scenester!: If you could play with one band living or dead, who would it be and where would you play?

Ben: You'd better pause that. (Referring to the tape recorder, of course.) I'm going to have to think about it...It would be New Hope For the Wretched era Plasmatics.

Scenester!: Where would the show be?

Ben: Where would it be? Six Flags Great Adventure. In that room where they have the camera and show the movie and you feel like you're moving... We'd be playing in front of it so people would be watching us and getting sick.

Scenester!: They already do...Would you rather meet Don Rickles or Ron Jeremy?

Ben: I would have to say Don Rickles because number one, he's closer to death. I'll have less and less of a chance to actually meet him in the future.

Scenester!: What do you think of the Ultimate Fighting Challenge? You think it should be banned, or should people just leave it alone?

Ben: Wow! That should be a replacement for political struggles. You should just have two world leaders get in there and put it on pay-per-view.

Scenester!: Do you think you could take Royce Gracie?

Ben: Actually, probably not. Have you looked at me lately? I'm wasting away, I'm frail, I can't take anybody. You guys could probably kick my ass. I'm bony up here, then there's a little breadbasket, then I get bony again. With the exception of my monstrous cock. You can print that if you want.

Scenester!: We were planning on it.

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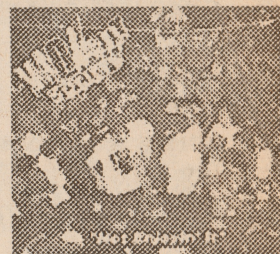


Stranglehold - "Stranglehold"

Two years ago Die Toten Hosen released an album called "Learning English, Lesson One." It was an album of covers of classic punk bands and it immediately became one of my favorite CDs. When I first put in the Stranglehold disc I had to run and check to see if DTH covered any of their songs, because it sounded just like many of the songs on that album. (It was recorded over a decade ago.) That is by no means a bad thing, this record is quite enjoyable and many bands today could certainly use a lesson from them. It sounds like Social Distortion minus the rockabilly, good for old school punk lovers. (Taang!) - Jonny

Violent Society - "Not Enjoyin' It"

I'll make this short and sweet. Anyone who likes classic ('77 England) punk will love this album. Practically anyone else will too. Violent Society rerecorded all of their classics like, "You're Gonna Fall" and "Polyester Snatch" along with some newer ones like, "I Wanna Know." This CD has been selling briskly and is bound to be regarded as a classic of modern punk. A must purchase for anyone! (Motherbox Records, 60 Denton Ave. East Rockaway, NY, 11518) - Jonny



Millencolin - "Life On A Plate"

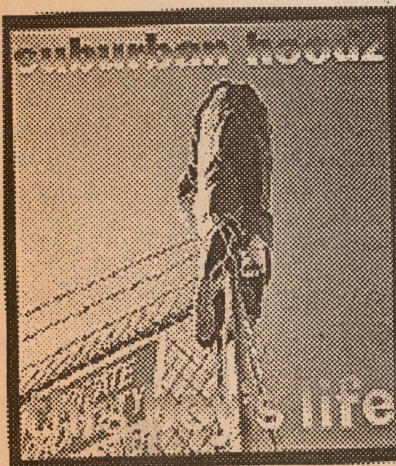
These pop punksters play a style that you're familiar with, and they play it well. I've always said that Swedish quartets who sing about the perks of dating heavy girls are cool in my book, so naturally I would like this band. So will you if you enjoy music typical to Fat Wreck Chords or Epitaph, who happen to be Millencolin's label. (Epitaph) - Dan

Stuntmen - "Tune You Out"

After three years and three seven inches, Philadelphia's The Stuntmen have finally released a compact disc filled with 12 tasty little morsels, or nuggets if you will, that are reminiscent of, let's say The Didjits and Rocket From The Crypt with a heavy punk influence. If this sounds like your style or if you want a change of pace from the poppy punk world of today this may be what you're looking for. (Stunt-Recs 2 Caryl Lane Phila. PA 19118) - Dan

The Goops - "Lucky"

This disc is an excellent follow up to their debut album, it even surpasses it. Eleanor Whitledge's nasal and scratchy vocals are great and soothing except in the song "Yeah, I Know," where she starts to sound like Fran Drescher. Some of the standout tracks are "Don't Wanna Be Like You," "Change Your Mind," "One Kiss Left," and "Cut the Rug," which is the only song with male vocals. If you are a Goops fan you'll love this and you'll probably love it even if you're not. If you've got an extra 10 bucks around, this would be one of your best choices to spend it on. (Kinetic/Reprise) - A guest review by Jonny's brother, 12 year old Jeremy "Therm" Cristol.



Suburban Hoodz - "This Boy's Life"

The Suburban Hoodz have packed away their turntables and busted out the guitar, bass and drums for "This Boy's Life", their full length debut. For the uninitiated, the Hoodz play the kind of hardcore/hip-hop commonly associated with Dog Eat Dog. But unlike Dog Eat Dog, they have a more real rap vocal feel. (As they should considering there are three rappers.) The songs themselves range from the fun and truly inspired "BB Gun" and "Condition Ressed" to the more stereotypical of this genre "Shitalka." Overall the music is adequate, the vocals decent, and the lyrics funny. You probably can't tell from what I've said so far that I like this disc a lot. The more I listen to this release, the more it grows on me. It's great for driving and getting yourself psyched up for something, be it a test, a show, or handing someone a beatdown. If you like this kind of music you should definitely pick this up, or at least see them live. If you don't like that rap/hardcore sound, you're not going to like this. (215 Records - no address given.) - Jonny

November's Fire - "Forgiven"

This is a one song preview of their 7 inch that should be out now. This is that sort of screaming hardcore that seems to be getting bigger and bigger. While this is not the kind of thing that I would personally choose to listen to, I can respect that they've really put their hearts into it, and a lot of people will like this record. So if you like that Abnegation/ Bound/ Endeavor type sound, you'll like this as well. If you don't, steer clear. (Chris, P.O. Box 309, Wharton, NJ, 07885-0309) - Jonny

Texas is the Reason - "Do You Know Who You Are?"

If you enjoy Sunny Day Real Estate then you will love this record. Even if you don't, you'll still think it's pretty cool. Well sung, intricate guitar work and rhythms. A far and much welcomed cry from the "Hardcore" that I consider metal that has infiltrated the scene today. This record will not make you want to open a can of whoop ass on anybody, but it will make you appreciate the craftsmanship of the band, necessary in order for writing and performing these clever songs. (Revelation - PO Box 5232. Huntington Beach, CA. 92615-5232) - Dan

Rocket From The Crypt - "Scream Dracula Scream"

Oh my, this is one slab of hot wax. All 14 songs on this record rock my world, which is Earth, which means it will certainly rock your's too. The sound is like the Didjits except Rocket do it a hell of a lot better. They have horns, crazy on-stage antics, and above all, a great review in Scenester!. What more could they, or you, possibly want? (Interscope Records, vinyl on Cargo.) - Dan

Fugees - "The Score"

This is one of the best rap albums I have ever heard. It is one of the few chart topping albums that actually deserves to be there. The Fugees rap in a soft mellow way, while maintain hard edged lyrics that are wonderfully written and sound great slipping off the tongues of Wyclef, Lauryn, and Pras. They sing about everything from police brutality to love. They also throw in a few covers, "No Woman, No Cry," and their current chart topper, "Killing Me Softly." The production is top notch, and the interludes are hysterical. 10 times better than "Blunted on Reality." (Columbia/Ruffhouse) - Jonny

Murphy's Law - "Dedicated"

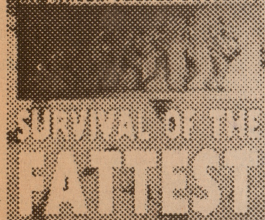
While Murphy's Law used to be on the cutting edge of the music, and hardcore, scene, their current offering doesn't have that special something that made "Back With A Bong" so great. This record is decent and they still have their old sense of humor as evidenced by the song, "Bag of Snacks." The music is OK and Jimmy's voice is good. All the elements of a good record are there but it's just not that great. The cover, on the other hand is awesome. It's a claymation scene of a hardcore show and pit. It's worth buying the record just to own the cover. (Another Planet, 740 Broadway, New York, NY, 10003.) - Jonny

Dahlia Seed - "survived by"

This disc is a masterpiece! It's one of those rareities where every song is great. People who like heavy hardcore love this, people who like indie-pop love this, people who like pop-punk love this. In fact, I haven't met anyone who doesn't love this. Stand out tracks include "Spot Check and" and "Grumpy Tounge." Dahlia Seed sound a little like Ashes crossed with Bikini Kill. Tracy Wilson has an incredible voice full of feeling and passion, and whoever writes their music is quite a talent. This could quite possibly be the best disc released in 1996 to date. Buy it now!!! (Troubleman Unlimited, 16 Willow Street, Bayonne NJ, 07002) - Jonny



FAT WRECK CHORDS PRESENTS



Various Artists - "Survival Of The Fattest"

This is the second Fat compilation and it features that label's old faves like Lagwagon, Tilt, No Use For A Name, Strung Out, Propagandhi, and Good Riddance. In addition to these bands, some fresh faces also surface including Frenzal Rhomb, Diesel Boy, Hi-Standard, and Me First and The Gimme Gimme's featuring Joey of Lagwagon and Fat Mike. It's tough to choose highlights and since the darned thing only costs \$4 on CD you shouldn't need much convincing to buy this, especially if you are familiar with the FAT roster. (FAT Wreck-PO Box 460144 San Francisco, CA 94146) - Dan

108 - "threefold misery"

I have been waiting for this disc for a long time, and well, I guess it was worth it. If you're expecting another "Songs of Separation" you will be left disappointed as this is nowhere near as good as 108's hardcore classic. It is, though, a solid release. Songs range from the musically and lyrically brilliant "Killer of the Soul" ("Satanic ritual, set the corpse upon the table...") to the generic scream fest that is "Invocation." If you like 108 and already have their other Discs, you'll PROBABLY like this one too. If you don't have any 108 stuff, buy "Songs of Separation," which, I think, is one of the best hardcore albums ever. (Lost and Found, Bunteweg 1, 30900 Wedemark, Germany) - Jonny



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Bouncing Souls - "Maniacal Laughter"

The follow up to 1994's "The Good The Bad and The Argyle" proves to be an excellent sophomore effort for this New Jersey quartet. They have a truly original sound. I'm trying to think of a band to compare them to, but I can't. However, you shouldn't need me to describe them, because unless you've been living under a rock for the past couple years, you should be very familiar with the sound of The Bouncing Souls. If you're not, let me suggest that you make their acquaintance. (BYO-PO Box 67A64 Los Angeles CA 90067) - Dan



Buck O Nine - "Water In My Head"

This has some of the catchiest horn riffs I've ever heard. One listen to this and you'll be humming it for days. The only things wrong with this are that it's too short, and the vocals are slightly below par. If you like punk/ska, this is for you! (Taang!) - Jonny

Standpoint 7-inch

This three song EP features some of the best material that this band has to offer. The vocals seem a bit too low, which is sad because they are sung beautifully, but the music is also incredible. If you have a record player, then this should be put on your "Things to Buy" list. Also, if you ever get the chance to see these guys and a gal, do take it, you won't be disappointed. (Spiritfall Records - 215 Hancock Ave. Bridgewater NJ. 08807) - Dan

Diesel Boy "Strap On Seven Inch"

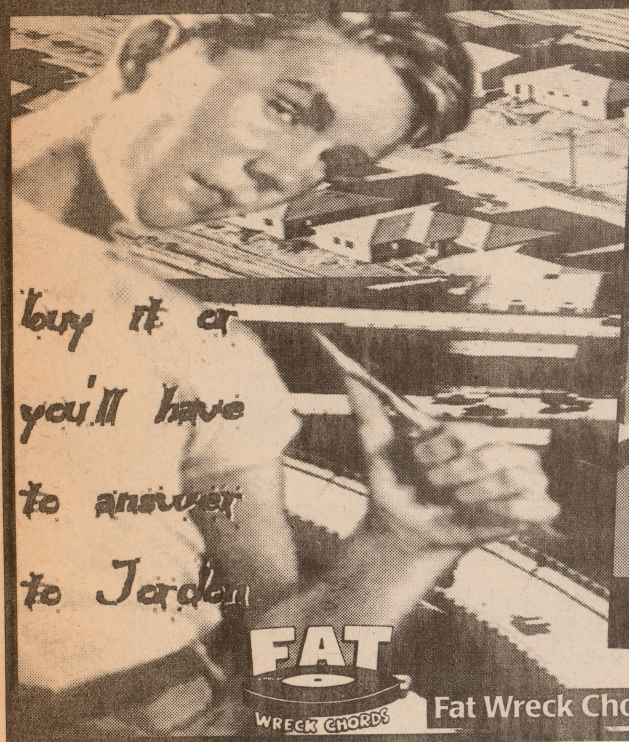
This is the newest band that Fat has to offer people like myself who just eat it up. If you're a big fan of this label like I am than you will enjoy these four songs thoroughly. You may have already heard the song, "Titty Twister" on the Survival of the Fattest comp. Well, it appears here as well as a few more rockin' favorites. (FAT Wreck Chords- See S.O.T.F. comp. review for address.) - Dan

You might be wondering why there are only 5 record reviews on this page. The reason is that YOU didn't send stuff for review. This is just a reminder to do so.

Scenester! issue 3 should hit the streets some time in late 1996. We'd like to thank you for having the patience to read this all, unless you have a review fetish and these have been the only pages you read. In that case, SEEK HELP! Until next time, remember...

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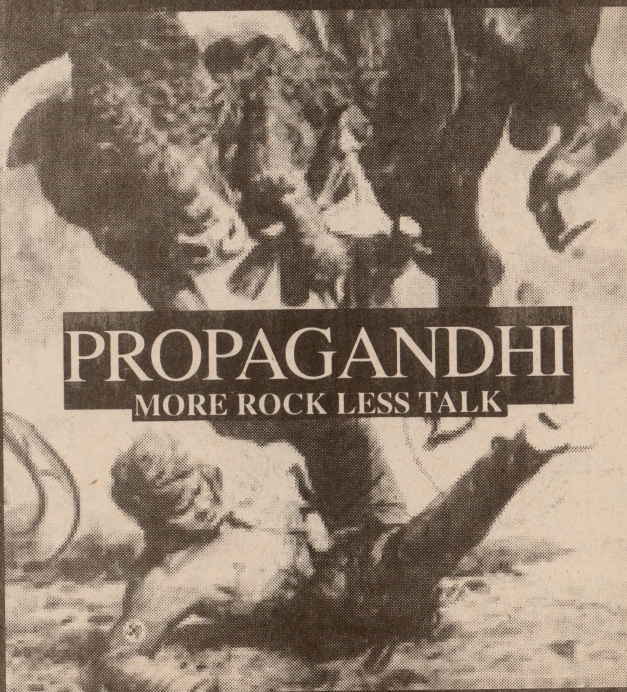
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